

DENTAL BOARD[650]

Notice of Termination

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code section 147.76, the Dental Board terminates the rule making initiated by its Notice of Intended Action published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on May 1, 2013, as **ARC 0722C**, proposing to amend Chapter 10, “General Requirements,” Iowa Administrative Code.

The Notice proposed to amend Chapter 10 to allow a dentist to delegate an expanded function duty to a licensed dental hygienist if the dental hygienist has completed Board-approved training pursuant to rule 650—20.15(153) in the specific expanded function to be delegated. The expanded function duties are as listed in subrule 20.3(3).

The Board is terminating the rule making and intends to postpone further action until after the Board receives the recommendations from its Ad Hoc Expanded Functions Committee. This Committee was appointed by the Board Chairperson on October 25, 2012, “to further address the matter of expanded functions for dental hygienists and dental assistants.”

After analysis and review of this rule making, it has been determined that the amendment would have a positive impact if adopted. The ability to perform expanded function duties would provide dental hygienists with increased access to job opportunities in a competitive job market. The Board’s rules do not allow an individual to hold both a dental hygiene license and a dental assistant registration at the same time. This has resulted in an unintended consequence that restricts dental hygienists from performing expanded function duties even though they received expanded function training while they were registered dental assistants. Dental hygienists who had previously received expanded function training while they were registered dental assistants and dental hygienists who choose to receive such training after this amendment becomes effective would be able to perform expanded function duties. This amendment would allow dentists to delegate expanded function duties to dental hygienists with expanded function training. This training would have a positive impact on the ability of hygienists to find employment.